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[54] PROCESS FOR PREPARING 2,6-DIALKYLNAPHTHALENE

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## Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation-in-part of application No. 08/948,299, Oct. 10, 1997.

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## [57] ABSTRACT

A process for producing 2,6-dialkylnaphthalene from a hydrocarbon feedstock that contains at least one component selected from the group consisting of dialkylnaphthalene isomers, monoalkylnaphthalene isomers, polyalkylnaphthalenes, and naphthalene, is provided that includes the following steps:

- I. separating the hydrocarbon feedstock and/or a dealkylation product fed from step III into a naphthalene fraction, a monoalkylnaphthalene fraction, a dialkylnaphthalene fraction and a remaining products fraction;
- II. separating and purifying 2,6-dialkylnaphthalene from the dialkylnaphthalene fraction of step 1;
- III. dealkylating the hydrocarbon feedstock and/or the remaining products fraction of step I and feeding the dealkylation product to step I; and
- IV. alkylating the naphthalene and monoalkylnaphthalene fractions of step I;

wherein the hydrocarbon feedstock is fed to step I or step III.

26 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets

